

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Status

1. Claims 1-3, 7-10, 14-17, 21, and 29-31 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. Regarding claim 1, this claim recites a “computer-readable storage media”. In the absence of any other modifying disclosure of this limitation in the specification, the ‘computer-readable storage media’ is limited to statutory embodiments only such that it satisfies the terms of 35 U.S.C. 101.

3. Regarding claim 15, this claim recites a “computer-readable storage medium”. In the absence of any other modifying disclosure of this limitation in the specification, the ‘computer-readable storage medium’ is limited to statutory embodiments only such that it satisfies the terms of 35 U.S.C. 101.

Examiner’s Amendment

4. An examiner’s amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

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5. Authorization for an examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Barry S. Goldsmith (reg. 39,690) on September 24, 2009.

In specification:

Please replace prior paragraph 0069 with new paragraph 0069 below:

[0069] One embodiment includes a computer program product which is a storage medium (media) having instructions stored thereon/in which can be used to program a computer to perform any of the features presented herein. The storage medium can include, but is not limited to, any type of disk including floppy disks, optical discs, DVD, CD-ROMs, microdrive, and magneto-optical disks, ROMs, RAMs, EPROMs, EEPROMs, DRAMs, VRAMs, flash memory devices, ~~magnetic or optical cards,~~ nanosystems (including molecular memory integrated circuits ~~ICs~~), or any type of storage media ~~or device~~ suitable for storing instructions and/or data.

In the claims:

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 21, and 29-31 have been amended. Claims 11 and 32-34 have been cancelled. Please replace all prior claims with the claims below.

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1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage media having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework that when executed by a processor cause the instructions to provide:

a user interface;

a plurality of services, wherein a service includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension of a plurality of extensions;

said [[a]] plurality of extensions to extend an application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein [[an]]each extension in the plurality of extensions include^{[[s;]]}:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language,

[[and]]

an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions of the plurality of extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available^{[[;]]}. [[and]]

an optional set of resources^{[[;]]}, and

wherein the extension^{[[s]]} of the plurality of extensions defines handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

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wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions provides functionality accessible in the user interface;

wherein one of the plurality of services provides access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each [[may]] describe a different type of extension.

2. (previously presented) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein: one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein: [[a first]] each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application building block.

4-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1 wherein:

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a first extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method for configuring an application in a computer-based extendable application framework, comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface at a computer to allow user interaction with the application;

providing a plurality of extensions at the computer to extend the application, wherein each extension of the plurality of extensions include[s]:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language[; and]],

an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within a XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions in the plurality of extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available[;], and

an optional set of resources[;], and

wherein the extension[s] of the plurality of extensions defines handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

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wherein the providing of the plurality of extensions permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface; and providing a plurality of services wherein the providing the plurality of services permits one of the plurality of services to provide access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions;

wherein each service of the plurality of services include a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each describe a different type of extension.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein: one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein: each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application building block.

11. (cancelled)

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12-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein: an extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon computer instructions for a computer-based extendable application framework system that when executed by a processor cause [[a]]instructions for the system to:

provide a user interface to allow user interaction with an application;

provide a plurality of extensions to extend the application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein [[an]] each extension of the plurality of extensions includes:

a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language, and
an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description,

wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions in the plurality of extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available [[and wherein the

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providing permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface;]]₁ [[and]]

an optional set of resources[[:]]₁ and

wherein the extension[[s]] of the plurality of extensions defines handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;

wherein the providing of the plurality of extensions permits one of the plurality of extensions to provide functionality accessible in the user interface;

provide a plurality of services wherein the providing of the plurality of services permits one of the plurality of services to provide access to functionality in one of the plurality of extensions;

wherein [[a]]each service of the plurality of services includes a public interface that has an implementation and provides access to functionality in an extension of the plurality of extensions;

wherein each one of the plurality of services is associated with an extension in the plurality of extensions;

wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes; and

wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each [[may]] describe a different type of extension.

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16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15

wherein:

one of the plurality of extensions utilizes one of the plurality of services.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15

wherein:

[[an]] each extension of the plurality of extensions is an interchangeable application building block.

18-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 wherein:

an extension of the plurality of extensions provides functionality to support at least one of: 1) a document type; 2) a user interface action; 3) a file encoding; 4) property settings; and 5) debugging information.

22-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage media of claim 1, wherein the

plurality of services includes at least one of:

a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;

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a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;

a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;

a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;

a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and

an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;

a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;

a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;

a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;

a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and

an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15, wherein the plurality of services includes at least one of:

a resource service to provide access to a set of resources;

a frame service to allow extensions of the plurality of extensions to specify a graphical user interface (GUI) docking layout;

a file service to provide a set of services for file system access and manipulation;

a server service to provide a set of services for accessing a server;

a document service to supply an abstract document interface for files that are part of an application project; and

an action service to provide methods for adding and manipulating menu and toolbar items.

32. (cancelled)

33. (cancelled)

34. (cancelled)

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-3, 7-10, 14-17, 21, and 29-31 are allowed.

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7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

With respect to the independent claim 1, the prior art of record, single or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest the step of:

“said plurality of extensions to extend an application, wherein the plurality of extensions provide functionality accessible in the user interface, wherein each extension in the plurality of extensions include: a set of classes defined in an object-oriented programming language, an XML (Extensible Markup Language) description, wherein the XML description is scanned for code fragments that are contained within an XML tag and are to be passed to handlers defined for a particular ID attribute at runtime to batch together XML descriptions from other extensions of the plurality of extensions and ensure services requested by the XML description are available, an optional set of resources, and wherein the extension of the plurality of extensions defines handlers for the XML tag found in the XML description;... wherein one of the plurality of extensions exposes and consumes services associated with another extension in the plurality of extensions, wherein the exposed and consumed services are consumed by the set of classes;... wherein the XML description comprises a root element comprising one or more children elements that each describe a different type of extension.”, in combination with the other claimed limitations. Independent claims 8 and 15 while of different scope recite similar limitations as that of claim 1. Regarding, the dependent claims, the dependent claims are allowed for being dependent to allowed claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL PHAM whose telephone number is (571)272-3924. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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